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**The Introduction of Extra-limital Plants.**—To what degree is our flora influenced by designed introduction of extra-limital plants? A person in no way a botanist, though after his fashion a lover of the woods, confessed to me that he was in the habit during his rambles of scattering seeds of foreign or western plants here in Rhode Island. Now, if these germinated, as no doubt they often did, they would give rise to plants quite extra-regional. This, when it first was noticed, might cause the experienced student no great annoyance, but it is easy to see that after a while, and when well established, they might easily mislead. There is no way that I can suggest of stopping such a custom in our free country. The question is how far is it reprehensible?

W. W. BAILEY.

**Leaves of the Abietineæ.**—Botanists will be glad to avail themselves of the opportunity to study the structure of the leaves of the *Abietineæ* of the United States and judge for themselves as to the value of the specific characters afforded by the position of the resin-ducts and the number and nature of the hypodermic cells; and I therefore take pleasure in announcing that Mr. J. D. King, of Cottage City, Mass., has prepared from material furnished from the collections of the Harvard Arboretum, and now offers for sale, beautifully mounted sets of microscopic slides showing cross-sections of the leaves of the sixty species of the United States.

C. S. SARGENT.

**Corema.**—I find in Rev. J. Fowler's list of New Brunswick plants, *Corema Conradii* "abundant in sphagnous bog in rear of Carleton, N. B."

W. W. BAILEY.

**Shortia.**—A correspondent, referring to the note on *Shortia* in the December BULLETIN, suggests that Mr. Hyams would have come nearer the truth had he said the plant "is sold out" instead of "dying out," in view of the fact that he has for the last few years been advertising to supply specimens at ten dollars each.

**James F. Robinson**, a well-known collector, at one time Secretary of the Botanical Exchange Club, and more lately connected with Owens College, Manchester, died quite suddenly on the 1st of November last, aged 46 years. A few years since he felt compelled to part with his herbarium, library and diagrams, and the writer secured many of his plants, volumes and maps, either for himself or Providence institutions.

W. W. B.

#### Botanical Notes.

**The Nectar-Glands of the Cruciferae.**—M. J. Velenovsky, in a paper of fifty-six pages (*Bull. de la Soc. Tchèque des Sciences*, 6, xii., 1884), has drawn attention to the characters of the nectariferous glands in the Cruciferae, which he believes might be employed in characterizing some genera and even larger groups. Thus the ab-

sence of the superior nectaries may be said to characterize the *Alyssineæ*, *Lunariæ* and *Cheiranthææ*. The form of the nectaries may also serve as a diagnostic character of some genera. The author gives a table of the classification of the Cruciferae with the application of the new characters.

### Botanical Literature.

*Botanical Contributions*, 1884-85. By Asa Gray. Proc. Amer. Acad. Arts and Sci., xx., 257-317.

The first part of this paper by Dr. Gray consists of a critical revision of some genera of *Borragineæ*, made necessary by recent discoveries. The revisions give us now two species of *Omphalodes*, one arctic, and one (*O. Howardi*, Gray, n. sp.) from Montana and Washington Territory, also two species in Western Mexico. A number of species of *Eritrichium* and some of other genera are referred to the genus *Krynitzia*, Fisch. and Meyer, the characters of which are extended, and which contains 45 North American species, eight of them new to science. Other species of *Eritrichium* and *Echidiocarya* become *Plagiobothrys*, Fisch. and Meyer, of which we have 13 representatives. *Echidiocarya* has but a single species, *E. Arizonica*.

Under "Notes on some American Species of *Utricularia*" reference is made to the drawings of Major Le Conte intended for illustrating his observations on the genus, \*and now in possession of Mr. I. C. Martindale. *U. personata*, Le Conte, is *U. juncea*, Vahl.; *U. longiciliata*, A. DC., and *U. simplex*, C. Wright, both Cuban species, have been detected in Florida; "*U. tubulata*, L., var. *cleistogama*, Gray, seems to be not uncommon. The late Dr. Garber collected it in Florida, and Mrs. Owen sends it from the island of Nantucket." We may add that it has recently been found again in the New Jersey pines by Prof. J. A. Allen.

Six new genera, each of a single species, are described from the Southwest. They are *Veatchia* (*Rhus Veatchiana*, Kellogg) from Lower California; *Lyonothamnus* from Santa Catalina Island; *Pringleophytum* from Sonora; *Phanlothamnus* of the Phytolaccaceæ from Sonora; *Himantostemma*, also Sonoran; and *Rothrockia* of Southern Arizona. The last two genera are of the Asclepiadææ. Two other new species of this order are described, viz: *Lachnostoma Arizonicum*, Gray, and *Acerates bifida*, Rusby, a very peculiar species with two-parted hoods, of which a single specimen only was secured.

Dr. Gray describes also thirty-nine new species of Gamopetalæ and remarks on others. Among the new ones we note *Schweinitzia Reynoldsia* from East Florida, and *Cassiope oxycoccoides* from Behring Island, off Kamtschatka.—N. L. B.

*A Manual of the Medical Botany of North America*. By Laurence Johnson, A.M., M.D. 8vo., pp. 290. Library of Standard Medical Authors. Wm. Wood & Co., New York, December, 1884.

Since the publication of Rafinesque's treatise on medical plants, no work of extensive scope has appeared in which our various native

\* Ann. Lyc. Nat. Hist., i, 72.